



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

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WIFA Chairman Steve Owens Presents White Mountain Apache Housing Authority with WIFA Project of the Year Award

WHITERIVER – Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona Chairman and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens today presented White Mountain Apache Tribal Chairman Dallas Massey, Sr. and the White Mountain Apache Housing Authority with the WIFA Project of the Year award during the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council meeting.

The “Best Financial Assistance Project” award was given to the WMAHA for their efforts to secure \$5 million in WIFA infrastructure loans to support the construction of a new housing development at Apache Dawn and other areas of the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation.

The loans included \$3 million for drinking water improvements and \$2 million for wastewater improvements.

“The significance of these loans to both the White Mountain Apache Tribe and to Indian Country cannot be overstated,” Owens said. “These were the first revolving fund loans to a tribe in the United States, and this project demonstrates the Napolitano Administration’s commitment to our tribal partners.”

The WIFA loans provided in March 2003 to the WMAHA were part of the \$25 million WMAHA Apache Dawn housing project. The housing project was constructed to reduce the residential housing shortage on the White Mountain Apache Reservation.